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## Sustainability at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center

### Operations

- **Landscape Irrigation:** Only 15 of 55 landscaped acres at [Coyote Ridge Corrections Center](#) require supplemental irrigation, which saves more than 34 million gallons of potable water each year. Manual sprinkler valves have been converted to automatic timed irrigation valves to limit overwatering.
- **Low-Maintenance Turf:** Traditional Kentucky bluegrass lawns have been replaced with sheep fescue and tall fescue lawns that require 15 percent less water and less fertilizer to maintain.
- **Lawn Mowers:** Gas-powered push mowers were replaced by reel mowers pushed by offenders. Reel mowers use no gasoline and produce zero emissions.
- **Integrated Pest Management:** Weeds, insects, and other pest are managed by a combination of cultural, mechanical, preventative, biological, and chemical controls to reduce our use of harmful pesticides. Increasing the amount of weeds pulled by hand provides offender with jobs.
- **Recycling:** Recycling containers are provided throughout the facility to promote sort-at-the-source recycling. An average of 6 tons of cardboard, 1.5 tons of plastic, and 3 tons of metal are recycled each month. Recycling will add additional plastic types and paper to their recyclable materials by July 2010.
- **Food Composting:** Food waste from Correctional Industries' food factory and Coyote Ridge's food services are being hauled to a local compost facility to be composted, diverting about 5 tons of food waste from the landfill each week.
- **Trash Compacting:** Compactors are used to reduce garbage disposal trips by 75 percent. Less garbage hauling reduces air pollution and garbage fees.
- **Vanpools:** More than 80 staff members participate in vanpools, reducing fuel consumption and maintenance cost, and reducing the amount of carbon monoxide generated.
- **Hybrid and Electric Vehicles:** The facility's motorpool has replaced six vehicles with hybrid models. Electric vehicles are now used for on-campus transportation.
- **Solar Panels:** 135 solar panels on the warehouse roof have produced more than 113 megawatt hours of electricity since they were installed in February 2009. Coyote Ridge has removed 52.52 tons of emissions from the air.
- **Energy Efficient:** High-efficiency heating and air conditioning systems have reduced prison electrical use by 19 percent and natural gas use by 37 percent. Enhanced lighting controls in the prison living units automatically turn off lights throughout the day. A hot-water reclaim system is used to pre-heat laundry water. Water used in food services is pre-heated using a refrigerant heat recovery system.

## Facilities

- **LEED Gold Certified Facility:** Coyote Ridge Corrections Center is the first prison in the world to have its entire campus be certified Gold by LEED. It was the largest LEED project ever completed by the state of Washington.

## More Information

Visit the Department of Corrections' [sustainability website](#) for statewide information.